

My name is Patrick Pizzo. I live in San Jose, California. This is a slide presentation about the River Guadalupe which ran through an area of our Valley (the Santa Clara Valley) called Willow Glen. I call it the “River Guadalupe” to distinguish it from today’s Guadalupe River which runs from the Almaden Lakes, thru San Jose, to the South Bay. I was born and raised in Willow Glen and know the territory. But I didn’t know about something called the Lewis Canal. This Canal is credited with providing the means of ridding the Willow Glen area of willow trees and the swampy conditions that supported their growth. The Lewis Canal is the eastern periphery of my Father’s property, a 13 acre ranch he owned in Willow Glen. I wanted to know more about this canal and its origin. In pursuing this history, I became intrigued with the River Guadalupe. Now, the Guadalupe River runs thru the Western Santa Clara County draining into the south bay at Alviso. However, it wasn’t always continuous. I learned this in a San Francisco Estuary Institute document about the history, geography and geology of the Western Santa Clara County. Several personal experiences indicated to me that the original Guadalupe River (I call it the River Guadalupe to distinguish it from the one we know today), ran near my father’s property. That area of Willow Glen now is all commercial and residential. Homes have been constructed directly on the path of the former River Guadalupe. My goal was to compare early maps of the Valley with current-day maps and find out, once and for all, the origin of the River Guadalupe and the path it ran in early California, prior to the changes brought about by the influx of pioneers from the Eastern US, beginning in the early 1840’s.

Patrick P. Pizzo

I am going to post this work on E-Archives. I will write text-slides consistent with how I would present the slide show. There are several maps that support this presentation. I will include a number of slides at the end of this slide-set to indicate the source-maps. Ppp

A River Ran Through It

A story about early Willow Glen, the
River Guadalupe, and the Narvaez Rancho

Who is this dude?

- My name is Patrick P. Pizzo and I was born in Willow Glen. Our family home was at Lincoln and Norval Avenues
- I am Professor Emeritus from San Jose State, Materials Engineering
- My father owned property at 680 Minnesota and the east boundary of the property was the Lewis Canal/Guadalupe River.
- In my pursuit of information about the creation of the Lewis Canal, I discovered that the Origin of the River Guadalupe was in the vicinity of Riverglen Park, Bird Avenue and Willow Glen Way. I also found that the river ran along the periphery of my in-law's home on Padres Dr. The creek/river still exists and runs underground along this route!

What is the Narvaez Rancho?

- Rancho San Juan Bautista was a 8,880-acre (14 square miles) Mexican land grant in present-day Santa Clara County, California given in 1844 by Governor Manuel Micheltorena to José Agustín Narvaez. The grant extended along the River Guadalupe from Los Gatos to San Jose. Within its boundaries were much of today's Willow Glen, Hillsdale, Robertsville and the Lone Hill area.
- As required by the Land Act of 1851, a claim for Rancho San Juan Bautista was filed with the Public Land Commission in 1852, and the grant was patented to José Agustín Narvaez in 1865.

The next set of four slides shows the Narvaez Rancho. It is a map from the Northern Circuit Court of the USA, San Francisco, a record of the court case that gave title of the San Juan Bautista Rancho to José Agustín Narvaez in 1865.

The first foil shows the whole of the Rancho. It extends from just south of the City of San Jose to the Almaden Valley and from Camden Avenue, essentially to HWY 87, more or less. One can see the discontinuous nature of the valley streams and creeks, from the watershed of the Mt. Umunhum area to the City of San Jose. Our valley is very flat. Water from the watershed flows out, onto the valley floor depositing sand, soil, gravel and organic material to create this flat, alluvial plain. When the Pineapple Express would visit the Valley in our rainy season, the water would flood the valley and filter into the underlying aquifer. Where the water would go underground, there were Sycamore allisal (or groves of *Platanus racemosa*). Where the water was close to ground level or came up onto the valley floor, there were Willows: *Salix* spp. Willow Glen was swampy, and mostly willow-groves.

The second foil shows the southern periphery. My current home is on the “0” in “40” on the lower left. Capitancillos means the “little chiefs”, what the Spanish called the heads of the family units of Ohlone Indians in this area. The Arroyo de los Capitancillos is currently the Guadalupe Creek, and in this foil, it is coming down from the Santa Cruz Range near Hicks Ave and Camden Ave. The Villas of Almaden are on the S-W side of the two hills shown in the slide.

U. S. Surveyor General's Office,
San Francisco, California.

I hereby certify this to be a full true and correct copy of
the original Plat on file in this Office, of the official sur-
vey of the Rancho de San Juan Bautista, finally confir-
med to Jose Augustine Narvaex.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto signed my name and
caused the Seal of this Office to be affixed this 7th day
of November, 1860.

J. H. Mandeville
U. S. Surveyor Genl. Cal.

PLAT

of the

RANCHO de SAN JUAN BAUTISTA

finally confirmed to

Jose Augustine Narvaex

Surveyed under instructions from the

U. S. Surveyor General,

Chas. T. Healy, U. S. Dep. Sur.

May, 1860.

Containing 8879 1/2 Acres.

Subdivided into 1 block.

Containing 87 1/2 Sects.



WHITE OAK TREE N. 1/2 Sec. 30
Beginning where

T. 7 S. R. 1 W.

T. 7 S. R. 1 E.

Sec. 30

Sec. 30

Sec. 31

Sec. 32

Sec. 33

Sec. 34

Sec. 2

Sec. 1

Sec. 6

Sec. 7

Sec. 8

Sec. 9

T. 8 S. R. 1 W.

T. 8 S. R. 1 E.

Boundaries.

No.	Course	Distance	No.	Course	Distance
1	N 71° E	31.00	33	S 66° E	41.00
2	N 67° E	29.00	34	S 64° E	30.70
3	N 71° E	41.00	35	S 70° E	17.00
4	N 34° E	23.75	36	N 38° E	24.00
5	N 66° E	18.60	37	S 81° E	22.00
6	N 66° E	11.20	38	S 79° E	17.00
7	N 4° E	22.00	39	S 75° E	2.25
8	N 34° E	12.00	40	S 70° E	102.70
9	N 26° E	26.00	41	S 72° E	142.00
10	N 47° E	37.00	42	S 73° E	32.00
11	N 26° W	6.00	43	S 75° E	36.00
12	N 41° E	18.00	44	N 71° E	42.00
13	N 88° E	69.23	45	S 84° E	42.00
14	S 71° E	14.77	46	S 71° W	13.75
15	S 71° E	17.77	47	S 68° E	14.66
16	S 80° E	14.00	48	S 58° E	13.70
17	S 5° W	10.28	49	S 69° E	16.80
18	S 29° E	9.91	50	S 66° E	12.30
19	S 64° E	27.25	51	S 67° E	12.00

PLAT 11
OF THE
RANCHO DE SAN JUAN BAUTISTA
PAGE 1 NO

The full copy of the Plat of the Rancho de San Juan Bautista
finally confirmed to Jose Augustine Narvaex, from which
this Plat has been made, has been examined and
approved and are on file in this Office.

U. S. Surveyor General's Office,
San Francisco, California
September 11th 1860.

(Signed.)

J. H. Mandeville



In this third slide-set of the Narvaez Rancho Map, I chose this slide to demonstrate the discontinuous nature of the Gaudalupe. The Canoas Creek, draining from the San Juan Bautista Hills, is shown here as is the Arroyo Seco de Guadalupe, that is the dry Guadalupe Creek. Normally, the Guadalupe Creek and River was dry after June 15 and did not have water until the first significant rainfall of the next season: typically Oct/Nov. Also, I chose this slide to point out the two names, Malone and Pearl, as these are common street names to the people of the Willow Glean area.

Note that the Canoas Creek and the Arroyo Seco de Guadalupe are not connected. There is a surveyor's line connecting them, but it is not based on a natural feature such as a creek, stream or arroyo. Remember the orientation of this line.

Malone was an interesting man. He used the willows directly to make willow baskets and such. My mother had one that she used on laundry day. After she washed the cloths in the washer and ran them thru a hand-cranked strainer; then rinsed and repeated, she placed the clothes into the reed basket and hung them on a line in our backyard.



Now we get to the nitty-gritty. The fourth slide focuses on the area of interest: the River Guadalupe.

Look at the upper right. See the indication of the Spring at the head of the River Guadalupe? That is what I want to know. Where is that in terms of today's Willow Glen?!

We will explore this question by overlaying a base map from about 1955 (Mc Millan and Mc Millan Street Map) on the Narvaez Rancho Map, and other maps, to find the source. Some called the Spring, the Mother of all Springs! This was in an area of San Jose that was very wet and marshy mid rainy season.

You see that grove of sycamores on the upper right? Also, note that linear survey line that connects the Arroyo Seco de Guadalupe with the River Guadalupe. Note that it IS NOT pinned at the terminus of this dry river channel. The Arroyo Seco de Guadalupe runs past the point of intercept of the survey line with the river channel. This is important to point out. You will see why in a subsequent slide.

So the Arroyo Seco de Guadalupe goes underground at the terminus; and there we have Sycamores. The Spring, the source of the River Guadalupe comes out of a Spring, where willows abound. Where is this Spring?

Before we move on, I show other depictions of Willows in our early Valley Maps. This Map shows the Santa Clara Mission grounds and the willows that lie between the Mission and the City of San Jose. Note how the willows are depicted: Rich Moist Land!

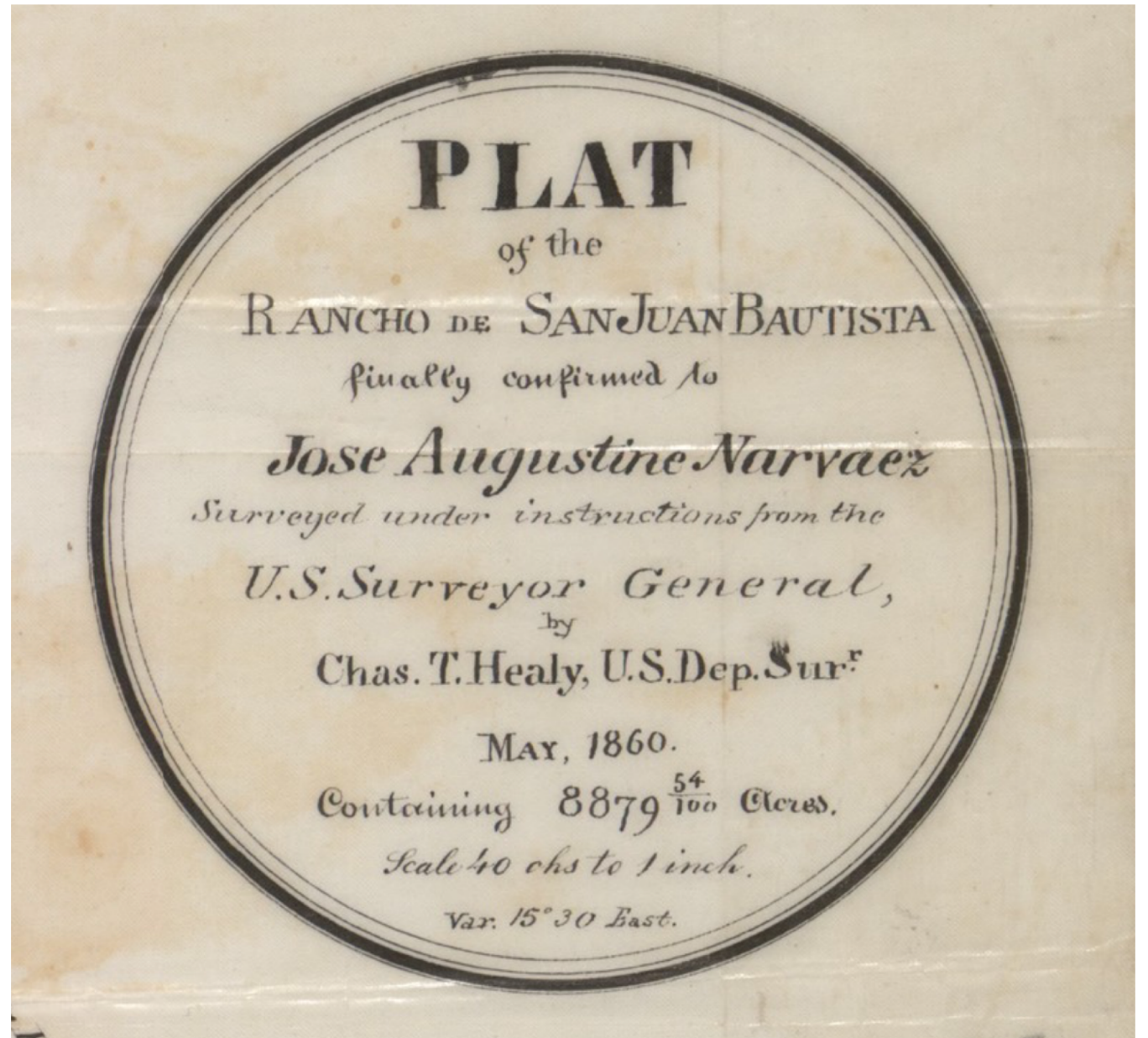
Now the folks coming to California, even prior to the Gold Rush, were farmers mostly. They came from Ohio, Michigan, Minnesota, etc. They knew rich bottom land when they saw it! Over the years, the Willows filtered organic material, sand and loam, and other good stuff. This accumulated organic material was prime farmland. It was the best soil for growing almost anything. How did they 'win' the Willows?

There is a story in the history of San Jose that the Lewis Canal made all of this possible. But I think that is an urban myth. You can't drain the willows on a flat plain unless you mechanically pump the water. If you dig a ditch on a flat plain, if the water is close to the surface, the ditch will fill with the water. Since the whole of the aquifer supports that flow, you don't drain anything. You can move water around on a flat plain through use of channels or canals. Once we got into fruit orchards, the Valley of Hearts Delight, that is exactly what farmers did. However, our main early crop in San Jose, Gilroy, Coyote Valley, was wheat! The Growing metropolis, San Francisco, needed bread and brew and oats, barley and wheat were the answer. There was no transcontinental railway yet; so the bread had to come from our South Bay. Fruit becomes dominate about 1874 to 1876.

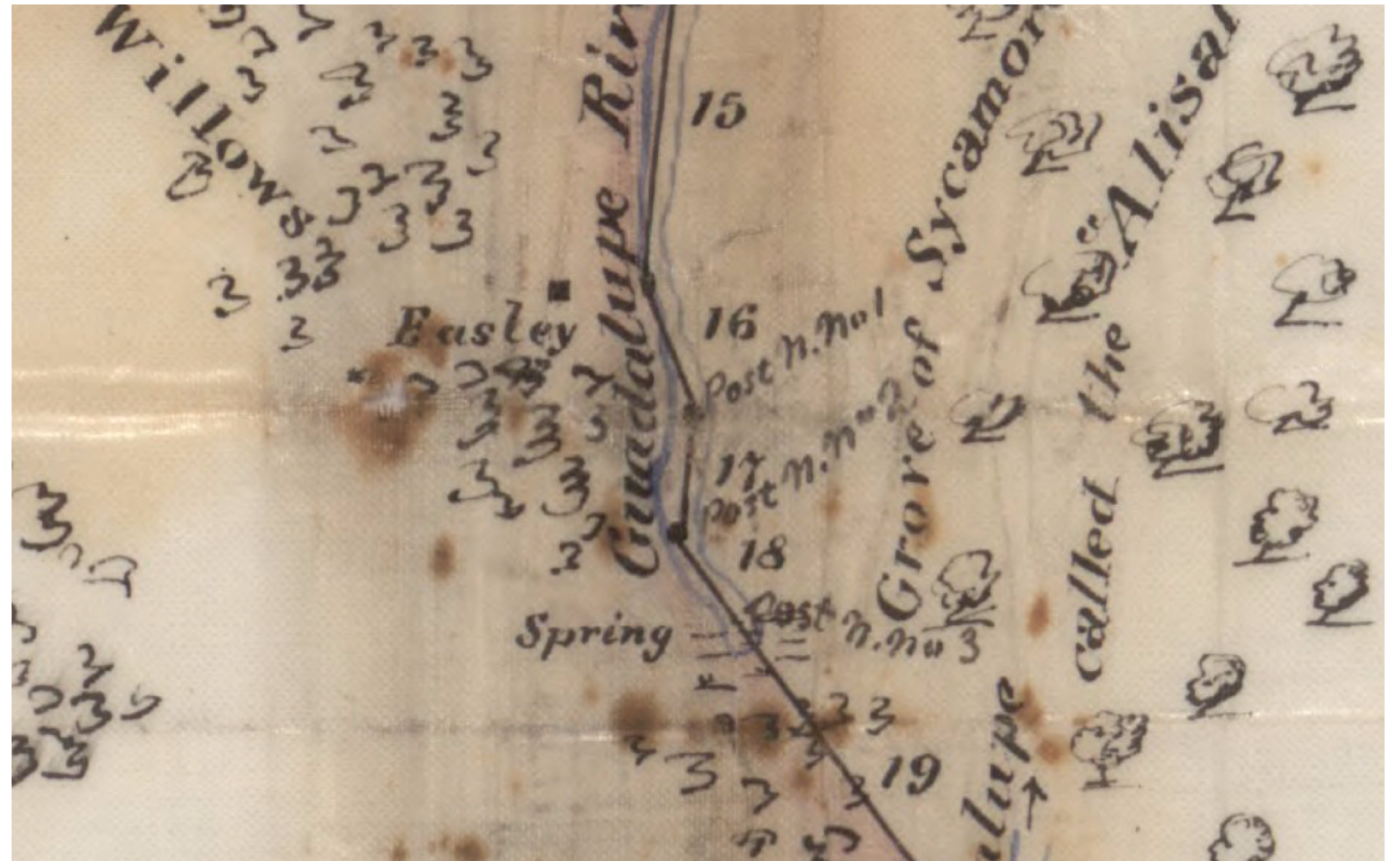
Farmers won the Willows by waiting for the dry season, setting fire to the Willows, using chisel pulled by oxen or mules to plow-up the trunks and roots; they sold the trunks for firewood in San Jose, and they farmed the land. Besides, wheat needed no irrigation as it is a Winter/Spring seasonal crop. The ½ mile long Lewis Canal did not make Willow Glen residential and commercial growth possible.



I've introduced
you to the
Narvaez
Rancho



But focus on
this: The
Mother of all
Springs



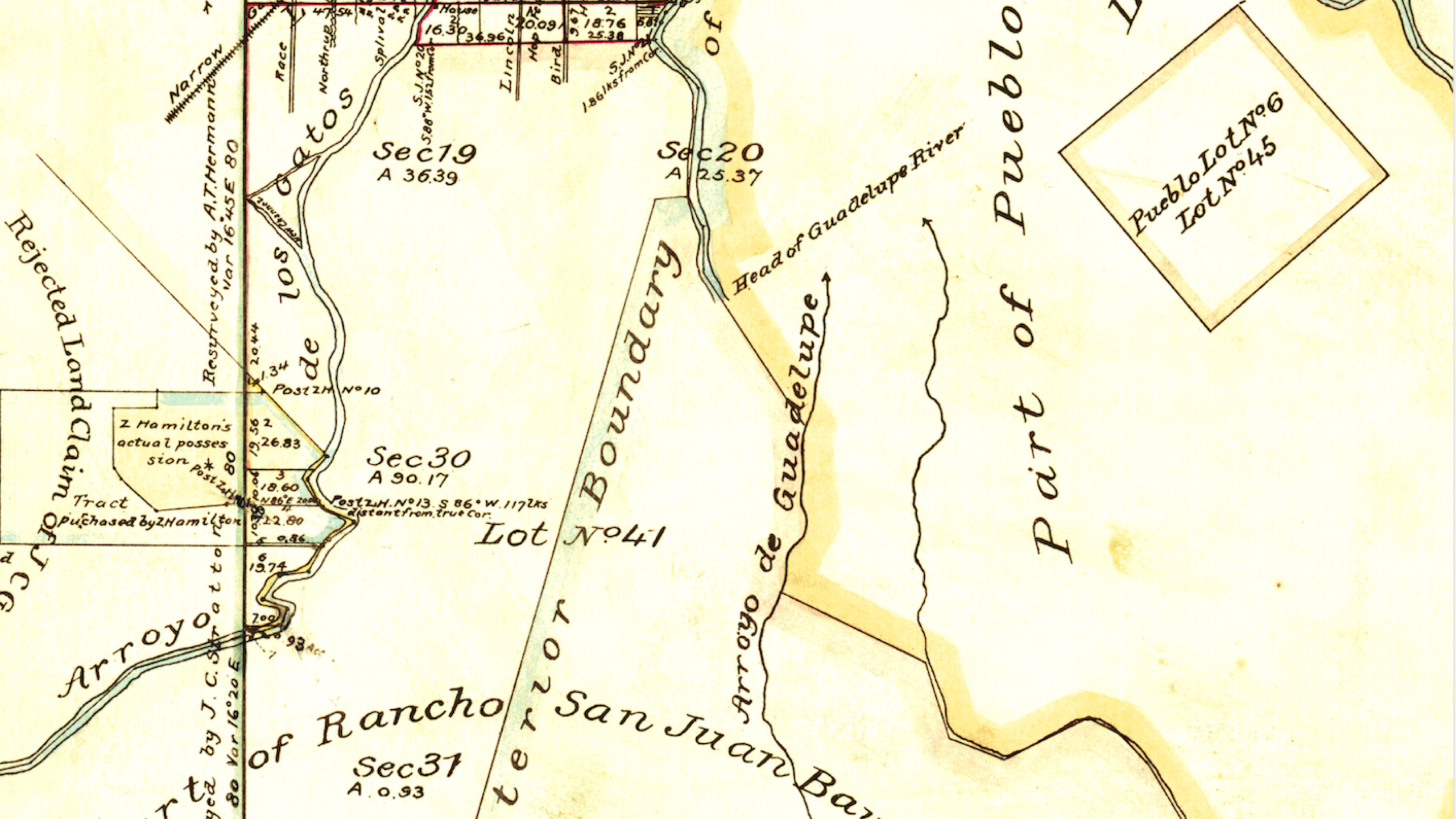
You see, the River Guadalupe originated near today's Willow Glen Way and Bird!

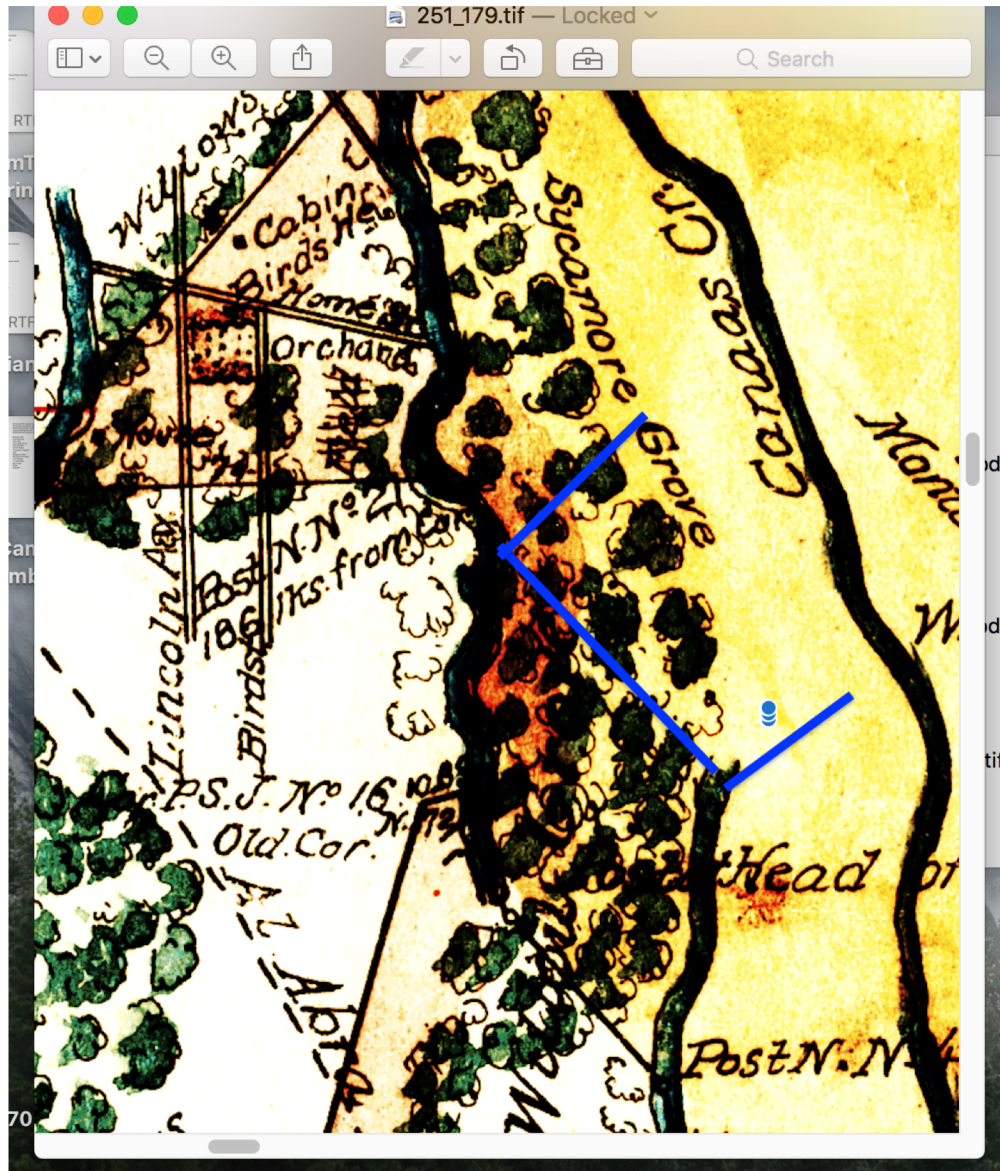
- A network of marshland and willows existed on our flat valley floor in this northern part of the Narvaez Rancho; Riverglen Park south, to Malone and beyond.
- The water from the Mt. Umunhum watershed flowed out onto the Valley Floor. Where it went underground, we had Sycamore Groves and where it came to the surface again, we had Willows!
- We will overlap current maps and early maps (including the 1860 Narvaez Map) to identify the location of the source of the River Guadalupe.
- I am going to share other information to support this conclusion.

Now, let's get to it! Let's begin to overlay maps. But there is one more background data point necessary: Where is the Guadalupe River of today with respect to the River Guadalupe of the 1860's? The first slide past this point is another representation of the Narvaez Rancho of about 1868 or so. Take a look at the features we have already discussed: The survey lines unassociated with natural features, the discontinuous nature of the Guadalupe Creek/River and the City of San Jose. Where is the City. At the very top of the map. The Narvaez Rancho is just south, more or less, of the Pueblo Saint Joseph (ie, San Jose).

Now, let us add a little color to this map and take us out a few more years (see the Ref Map Documents at the end of this presentation). We'll add trees and color and a few other lines of interest. They are significant.

The blue lines are the definition of the 100 plus acre ranch of James F. Reed. James Reed was born in Ireland, an officer of the US Army during the Mexican American War, a Civil Engineer and an entrepreneur. He was an organizer of the Donner Party, got kicked out, later came back to rescue the party in the Spring, migrated to the City of San Jose and owned most of the land in the Pueblo; and he had a wheat farm just outside of town. His daughter was Patty Reed: she married Frank Lewis, who James F. Reed knew from his military experiences, and when Frank created a farmer's channel or slough along the blue, western periphery, to drain water to harvest wheat, it evolved over time to become the "Lewis Canal". Only in '76 to '79 did it gain levee's and have its depth and breadth increased to become a true Canal. It is the Lewis Canal that defines the current Guadalupe River, the first in efforts to connect the Capitancillos/Arroyo Seco Guadalupe and River Guadalupe to handle continuous, heavy Pineapple Express rain-events. The Lewis Canal is on Pueblo Land!





Now the overlays. People of Willow Glen will recognize the area indicated. It dates from around '55 and '56. I know because my Dad built our Grocery Store (The Crosstown Market) at 680 Minnesota in that timeframe and my in-laws (I married a gal from the neighborhood, but that is a story for another time and we have been married 52 years (in 2019)) purchased the lot where my father-in-law designed and built his dream home. It is a pip of a home!

Also shown on this map is the proposed Alma Expressway, which is a feature known to most in Willow Glen. I won't explain the map here.... Just take a look. Key streets and locations are indicated by colored markers.

Let's look at
Willow Glen
Street Map,
circa '55





Here is the first overlay: the Narvaez Rancho and base map (McMillan and McMillan '55). I seem to have complicated the overlay; but there is a point to this. Careful assessment will show the River Guadalupe extending from the source, at Willow Glen Way and Bird (on the '55 Map) to a point of tangency of the Lewis Canal with the River Guadalupe. The sickle-shaped bend in the Guadalupe is a characteristic of the River at the Willow Street Bridge and is a pinning point for the overlay.

Note the straight surveyor line that extends from the origin of the River Guadalupe to the Arroyo Seco de Guadalupe. The intercept point is NOT where the Arroyo Seco de Guadalupe goes underground. The arroyo seco goes underground at the western boundary of the James F. Reed Ranch. Note that the western periphery of the Reed Ranch lies parallel to the actual boundary between the Narvaez Rancho and the Pueblo lands. The Red Arrow is an attempt to demonstrate that everything to the east of the River Guadalupe is Pueblo Land; and that west of the River Guadalupe, in this area of Willow Glen, is Narvaez Rancho. This is an important point. Many U.S. Bureau of Land Management maps have the boundary of the Narvaez Rancho along the Current Guadalupe River, the Lewis Canal in this area of Willow Glen. That is incorrect. The deed to my Grandfather's property at 680 Minnesota clearly states 'Pueblo Track One'.

Today's Guadalupe River is a continuous run from the Mt. Umunhum Watershed with the Guadalupe Creek running down from the hills at Hicks Road and Camden, to the los Alamitos Creek, where they join and become the Guadalupe River running north and east to downtown San Jose. The Lewis Canal was a first interconnection of these waters. However, the River Guadalupe, a natural feature of the 1860's, defines the boundary of the Narvaez Rancho.



Let's now overlay the Base Map of '55 with a Thompson and West Map of Willow Glen, circa 1876. The large marsh at the origin of the River Guadalupe is clearly indicated as is the spring-source. The overlay will show the River Guadalupe to originate at the third lot on Willow Glen Way on the north side of the street, just east of the intersection with Bird. So why do I insist that it is the First lot at the intersection where the source of the River Guadalupe existed?

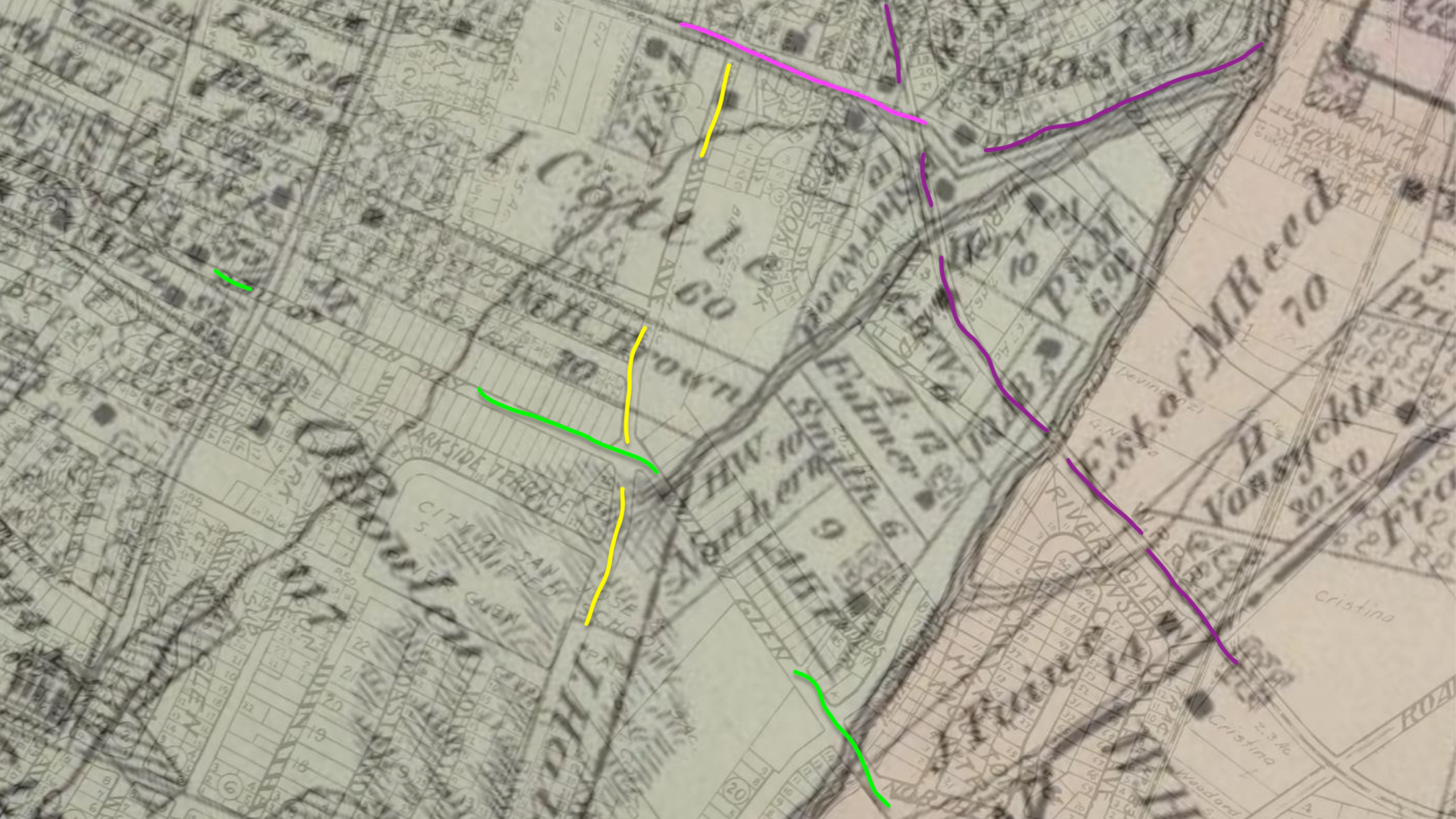
I have a first cousin, born to my Father's sister Anne (Pizzo) Riolo: Joe Riolo. Joe was born around 1923. He grew up around our grandparents home in 'Goosetown' area of San Jose. The family home was at Goodyear and Almaden Road. His family then had a home on Willow Glen Way. Joe related stories to me over the years, which I took with a grain-of-salt, until I started this venture. Joe said that the old-timers in Willow Glen would gather their garden clippings and raked leaves and deposit them at the first lot at the intersection of Willow Glen Way and Bird Ave (probably with other trash). When the Rains came in the late Fall, the Spring would come to life and the waters would wash the debris to the Bay. Joe insists that the River Guadalupe originated at the intersection of Willow Glen way and Bird Ave: the N-E corner.

Joe also insisted that the River ran right through my mother-in-law's Garage! We will get into that further on.

All of the lands to the south of the Origin of the River Guadalupe were wetlands and marsh. Riverglen park, current day Galarza Elementary School, the area around Malone Ave and Bird, that whole region.

Thompson and West in 1876





Let's focus on the Cherry Brook Park Development occurring at Minnesota Avenue, between Bird Ave and 680 Minnesota. Two streets define this development: Carmel Drive and Padres Drive. In about '54/'55, my in-laws purchased lot #14 on Padres Drive to build their home. Dad was a contractor and built new homes for folks in the more affluent areas of the South Bay: Los Altos Palo Alto and Atherton. He amalgamated the best design features into his dream home. Lot #14 appears by the word "Arata" in the Cherry Brook map. Paul Arata owned the plum and walnut orchards adjacent this development. Pay particular attention to the segmented surveyor line running along the periphery of Lot #14 and heading toward the intersection of Bird and Willow Glen Way, not shown in this image, but near the lower-left corner. My grandson, Ryan, and I believe this line depicts the centerline of the River Guadalupe. We will try to convince you in the next few foils.

J.P. Wil
10.13

H.M. Hervey
214A.

Mrs. R.A. Stratton
286A.

F.R.
Shafter
6.92A.

H.M.
Brown
9.05A.

F.R.
Mel
6A.

Arthur
Hervy

H.M. Brown

ROAD

5.34A.

Do I have any data to back this up?!

- About 1994, I was digging a drainage hole on the south perimeter of Lot 14, Mom's home. I had a pry-bar, about 6 foot long
- As I was digging, the bar went flying out of my hands, and only 6 inches of the bar remained above ground!
- I heard water running. I took a torch, and lo and behold, there was water flowing from S-W to N-E.
- This location is where the Herrmann Map lines up with the 1955 MacMillan and MacMillan Map.... Lot 14.
- The river ran between the back of homes on Padres and Hervey Lane, turned east at Minnesota and ran along Minnesota to Willow.



The next slide is an aside. This slide shows the map of the area of the River Guadalupe where it intersects today's Lewis Canal and the current Guadalupe River. It is a view near the intersection of Minnesota Ave and Willow Street. Willow Street is a very early street in Pueblo San Jose and shows in most all of the early maps.

There are two points to be made in this slide:

- 1- The Willow Glen Tract, on the prior James Lick Orchard land
- 2- The development of the Del Rio Manor through movement of Minnesota Ave away from the River a move to the west.

The Willow Glen Tract (if you had a home in this tract, you lived in Willow Glen) is on Pueblo Land, not within the Narvaez Rancho grant. Everything east of the Guadalupe River is San Jose Pueblo Tract (in this region of San Jose). Now this is not a major point as there were many 'Willow Glen' Developments that came forward from the turn of the 20th Century to the present. It is perhaps the early, North Willow Glen.

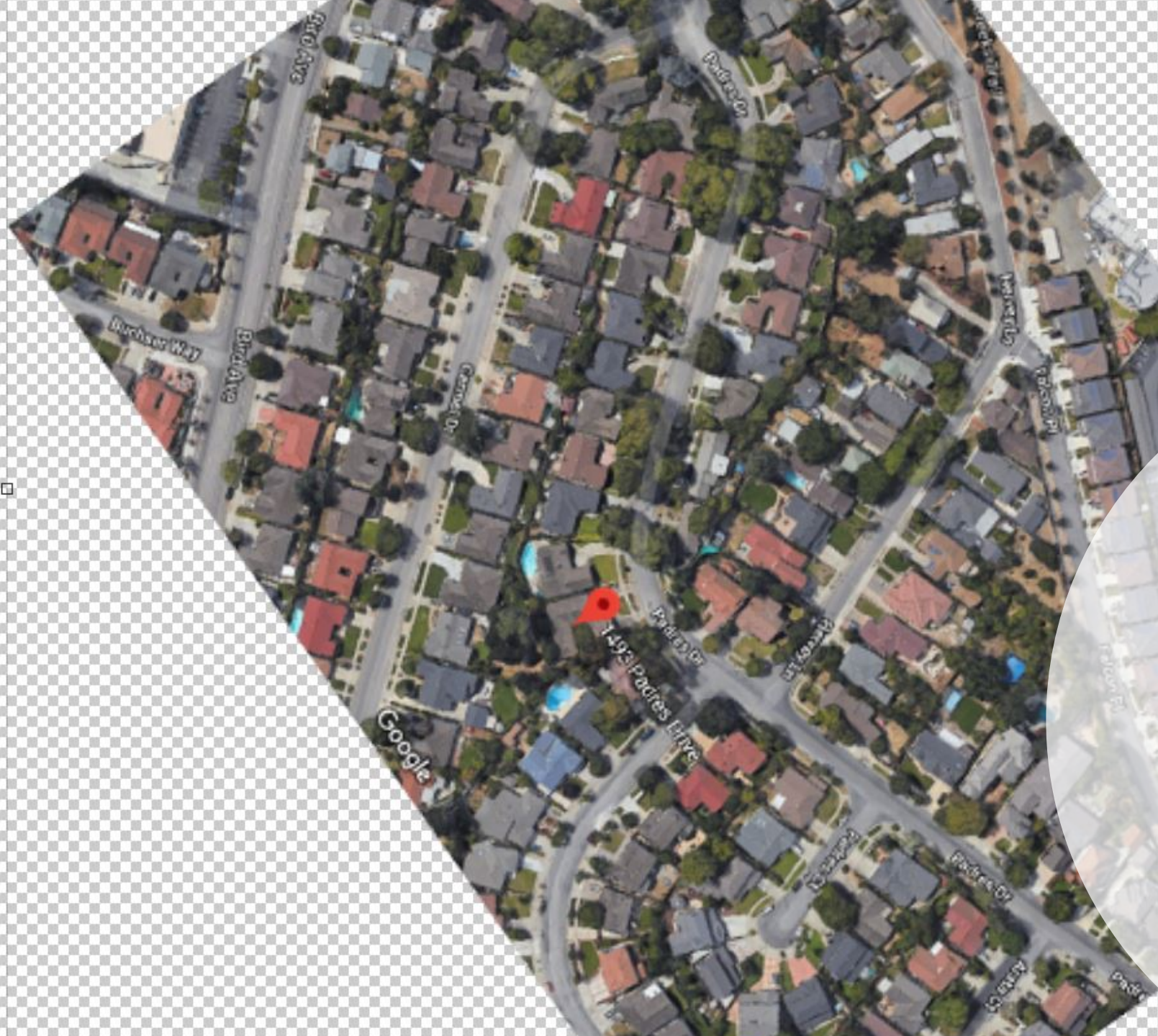
Secondly, note that about 1921, Minnesota was moved west, away from the Guadalupe River to make way for the Del Rio Manor development. One can see the original path of Minnesota in the underlying map. One red mark identifies the Sickle-shape in the Guadalupe River by the Willow Street Bridge and the other mark is the terminus of the Lewis Canal.



Conclusion

- The boundary between the Narvaez Rancho and the Pueblo Lands was based on the position of natural features, such as the original “River Guadalupe”
- The Origin of this River was at the intersection of current day Bird and Willow Glen Way. It was born out of the marshes/willows/wetlands that ran from Willow Glen Way, south along Bird to Pine and then south again to Curtner Avenue and beyond
- The river ran along the 1956-58 developments along Padres Drive and Hervey Lane to Minnesota and followed Minnesota north to Willow.
- Researching local history is a blast!

We can overlay some of the early maps showing the River Guadalupe on modern, Google images of the Cherry Brook Park development. This series of three slides shows Lot #14 and the position of the River Guadalupe. A Healthy row of trees behind the neighboring homes on Padres Drive and Hervey Lane mark the former position of the River Guadalupe.



A River Ran
Through It

9017
9017
9017

F.M. Hery
F.14A.

614A: S. 1st St. to
Mrs. RA. 2:30 P.
5th St.
6.9

Shatter
6.92 A.

J.P. Wil
10.13

10.13/



ABSTRACT OF TITLE

TO
2.86 acres (except portion
sold to W.P.R.R.Co) in
Pueblo Tract No. 1.

County of Santa Clara
State of California

AS SHOWN BY THE RECORDS OF SAID COUNTY
Dated July 26,

19 21
T.S. MONTGOMERY & SON.

San Jose Abstract & Title
Insurance Company
INCORPORATED

76 North First Street
SAN JOSE, CAL.

02/06/20

Acknowledgements

- I would like to thank my Grandson, Ryan Huddlestun, UG Student in the Architectural Program at Cal Poly, for his help in this venture. He overlaid recent vs. archival maps, sizing and orienting them to gain a good idea of where the River Guadalupe existed. Thanks Ryan!
- I also acknowledge the nudges I received from a colleague and friend, Jeanann Dresden. Jean researches historical information for San Jose Parks and has broad expertise on the History of our Valley and the City of San Jose.
- I acknowledge that I am an amateur historian and you have to take everything you were told today with a grain of salt!

When I gave this presentation at the Willow Glen Library on 22 June, 2019, a member of the audience and friend, Craig Ash made a comment about the 1955 Earthquake in San Jose. After the quake, he and his family toured the subject area of San Jose and found that many chimneys were lying on the ground in this area. Fascinating! Here is what Craig related and some supporting documentation:

"It [the Sept 04, 1955 Quake] was memorable to me for sure. I remember my folks took us to see the damaged area around Bird Ave between Willow and Minnesota. Lots of chimneys were down with bricks everywhere.

You did a great job today telling about the early landscape and Guadalupe. The underground flow was very interesting and the location of Willow Glen even beyond the real boundaries."

Cheers.

Craig

+++++

Will do a detailed look-see... but....

<https://newspaperarchive.com/san-mateo-times-sep-05-1955-p-1/>

<https://pubs.usgs.gov/of/1984/0955/report.pdf> look at page 23 on this one!

<https://earthquake.usgs.gov/earthquakes/eventpage/ushis2059/region-info>

San Jose Principal damage was to chimneys in the Willow Glen District where many fell and numerous required repair. One chimney reinforced with steel rods was sufficiently damaged to require partial demolition. Minor cracking occurred in several large downtown buildings, and the County Hospital (southwest San Jose), had minor cracking. At least one house moved on its foundation. Plaster cracked. Replacement of plate glass will cost about \$18,000. Large amount of merchandise fell in grocery and liquor stores, with considerable breakage.

Pppizzo

1955 Quake, more information...

“Pat. Interesting recollections for sure. As I mentioned. We lived on Glen Dell Drive and in 1955 I was headed to Willow Street Park to play baseball with the gang. I was walking north on Ridley Way when the quake hit. As I could barely stand on the sidewalk I still remember the park ahead of me rise up to eye level and then down noticeably down below my feet. It was like the land had turned into waves. Fortunately, our house only had a few cracks in the stucco. But, down near Willow Glen Way it was another story.” Craig Ash

As I told Craig, at the time of the '55 Quake, we were Dove Hunting in Evergreen. My dad's friend and lawyer was Peter J. Mancuso and they had a vineyard out there that is now part of the Villas of Evergreen, or whatever it is called. Their home was painted red- an older ranch house, with a large Barn and number of out-buildings. We were hunting doves up by a small reservoir above their place. I think Dove season began around August 31 and you had to hunt while the sun was up... the sun was about to set and we had seen no wildlife at all, up to that point.

I was sitting facing south, and just after 6:00 p.m. or so, I first saw then heard the earthquake coming. I was watching the sunset; and the sunset began to change from yellow to a darker orange. Then I heard it and then I felt it!

continued...

I think the earthquake was kicking up dust between me and the setting sun and thus the color change. When the earthquake hit us, the reservoir water began to straight up from the surface. The Coast Live Oak trees were shaking and the sound of leaves (dry leaves- end of summer) rubbing together was really something. All of a sudden there were doves lifting out of the Oaks and hovering like helicopters: tons of them. They were there the whole time we were hunting! We got into the jeep and return to the house. A few things fell from shelves. We got home- I don't recall anything about the trip home in the car, but the house was okay. We had a crack form in a back-bedroom wall, but that was it.

My memory is fuzzy on this one- but the next day the Mercury had a photo of a hotel downtown. The side-wall came crashing down and one could look into the various rooms! Now I don't know if that was for the 55 quake or the one later in '57. But I do remember that sunset!!!

Pppizzo

From Jean Dresden...

I didn't know about this one but did know about 1957

In 1989, BLEWETT lost many chimneys, we jumped part way off foundation. willow glen way lost foundations and chimneys and the road damage was notable all between Juanita and bird. Mostly closer to Juanita. It led to demo of several houses.

The 1906 reports are partially helpful.

Kirk mansion on dry creek near hicks lost chimneys. Severe House damage At Delmas and hull (a famous Christian author lived there)

There were other mentions but I didn't try to figure out specific spots. Willow glen way was a county road quite early (pretty sure before quake) but I don't remember what it was called. [Northern Road ppp]

JUNE 22ND



Areas of interest shown on this '56 street map:
McMillan and McMillan MAP

**WILLOW GLEN HISTORY
PRESENTS:**

A RIVER RUNS THROUGH IT

*A Story About Early Willow Glen, The
River Guadalupe, and The Narvaez Rancho*

SPEAKER: PATRICK PIZZO - Professor Emeritus, San Jose State University

LOCATION: WILLOW GLEN PUBLIC LIBRARY - Minnesota Ave. Branch

TIME: 3:30 TO 4:00 PM - Saturday, June 22nd

ABOUT THE SPEAKER:

PATRICK PIZZO grew up in Willow Glen, at Norval and Lincoln Ave, and has held a lifetime interest in local history. He holds a PhD in Materials Engineering from Stanford University, and is a Professor Emeritus of Materials Engineering at San Jose State University. He has devoted his retirement to his loves of gardening and history, and has extensively researched the history of San Jose and Willow Glen.

HIGHLIGHTS:

SAN JUAN BAUTISTA RANCHO: J. A. Narvaez received title to the Rancho when Mexico possessed Alta California.

WILLOW GLEN TITLE: Narvaez was awarded title to the Willow Glen area by the courts when California became a state.

GUADALUPE RIVER LOCATION: The river was located in the area of Alma and Minnesota, west of the current River ca. 1850.

MAPPING: Overlaying historic maps with contemporary ones will reveal the Guadalupe river's source.

GUADALUPE RIVER SOURCE: The source was a spring near the intersection of Willow Glen Way and Bird Ave; with a path through present day Willow Glen.

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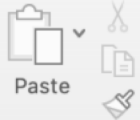
Maps in Support of "A River Ran Through It" Presentation



The 1860 Map of Jose A. Narvaez Rancho (Chas T. Healy, [U.S.](#) Surveyor General)



McMillan and McMillan Road Map of the City of San Jose, circa 1954/55
Undated! 1955 estimated from the family of McMillan and McMillan Maps in the
County Surveyor's Office and from information near Padres Dr. and Minnesota



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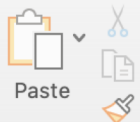
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Reference Section of McMillan and McMillan map, circa 1954/55
Alma Proposed, Padres Drive Development, lots defined, Riverglen Park and
SJUSD and City of San Jose parcel.





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reference section of McMillan and McMillan map, circa 1954/55
Alma Proposed, Padres Drive Development, lots defined, Riverglen Park and
SJUSD and City of San Jose parcel.

PLAT
of the
PUEBLO LANDS OF SAN JOSE
finally confirmed to the
MAYOR and COMMON COUNCIL of the CITY of SAN JOSE
Surveyed under Instructions from the
U.S. SURVEYOR GENERAL
by
G.H. Thompson, Dep. Sur. in July 1866
and
A.T. Herrmann, Dep. Sur. in October, 1879.
Containing within the Exterior Boundaries,
1st The following Tracts of Land claimed by the City of San Jose:
TRACT No. 1. 35,217.63 Acres.
" " 2. 310.03 "
" " 3. 15,785.30 "
" " 4. 14.40 "
" " 5. 1,524.32 "
In all 55,591.77 Acres.
2nd The following Grants patented to other Claimants:
Part of Rancho Aguas Calientes (Piguera) 125.80 Acres
Part of Rancho Los Molinos (Piguera) 3,975.39 "
Part of Rancho Rancon de las Buitreras (San Jose) 18,16.86 "
Part of Rancho Rancon de las Buitreras (Piguera) 10,088.44 "
Rancho Rancon de las Buitreras (San Jose) 5,500.19 "
Rancho Aguas Calientes (Part of A.T. Herrmann) 4,457.14 "
Rancho Los Molinos 4,454.08 "
Part of Rancho Cahuilla de Santa Fe 7,381.69 "
Rancho Santa Fe 24,531.62 "
Part of Rancho Los Molinos 9,891.43 "
Part of Rancho Cahuilla de Santa Fe (Part of A.T. Herrmann) 7,172.19 "
Rancho Los Molinos (Part of A.T. Herrmann) 20,651.64 "
Part of Rancho Los Molinos (Part of A.T. Herrmann) 8,914.47 "
Part of Rancho San Francisco de las Buitreras 4,000.00 "
Part of Rancho Los Molinos 9,650.83 "
Rancho San Francisco (Part of A.T. Herrmann) 4,438.36 "
Rancho Los Molinos (Part of A.T. Herrmann) 3,860.46 "
Part of Rancho Los Molinos (Part of A.T. Herrmann) 820.56 "
Part of Rancho San Jose (Part of A.T. Herrmann) 6,538.83 "
Rancho Santa Fe 9,647.13 "
Rancho Los Molinos (Part of A.T. Herrmann) 2,144.89 "
In all 153,279.83 Acres.
or an Aggregate Area of 153,163.40 Acres.

Pueblo Tract, 1856 and 1879

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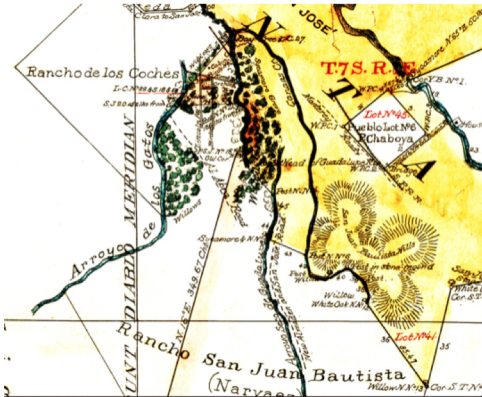
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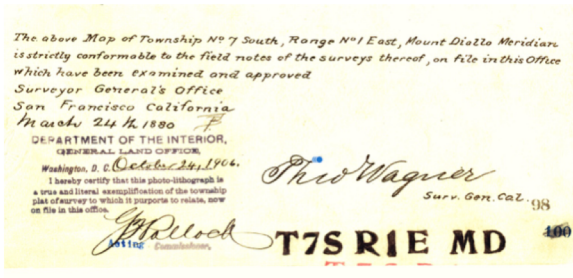
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Section of Pueblo Map, 1856 and 1879, Willow Glen



This is Township #7 South Map of 1880. Similar to above map

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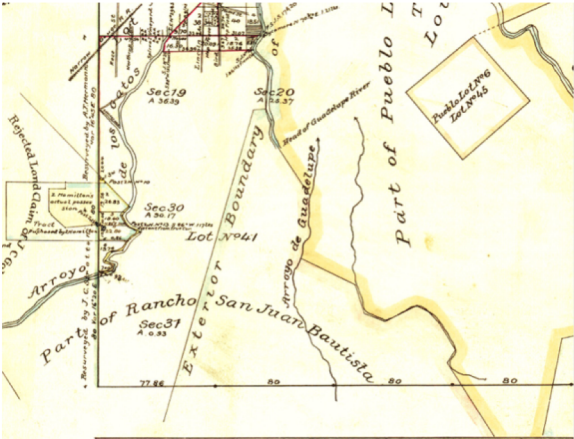
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Township#7, 1880

David Rumsey Historical Map Collection

Record ▼

Author:

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Township#7, 1880

David Rumsey Historical Map Collection

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Author:
Thompson & West

Date:
1876

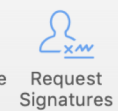
Short Title:
Santa Clara Co. 5.

Thompson And West, Ward 5, 1876

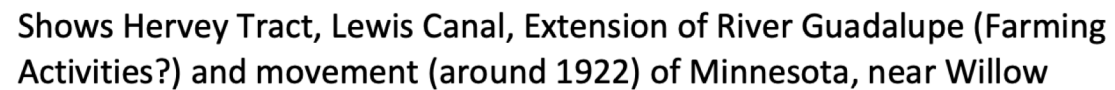
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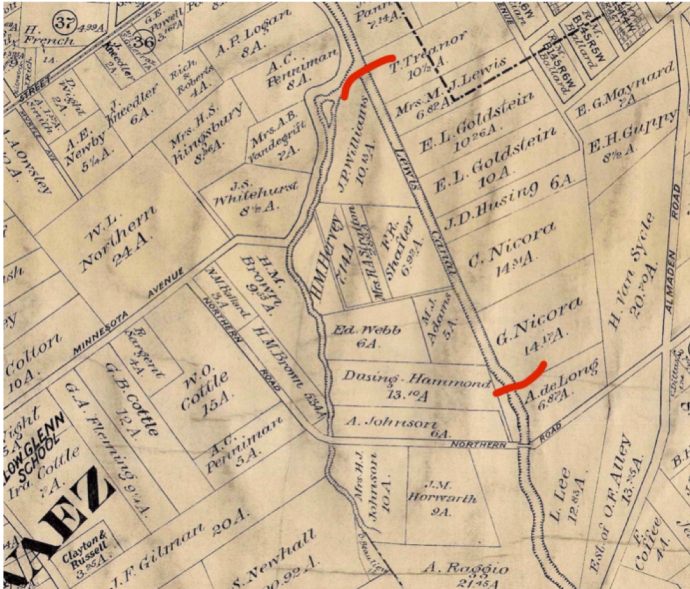
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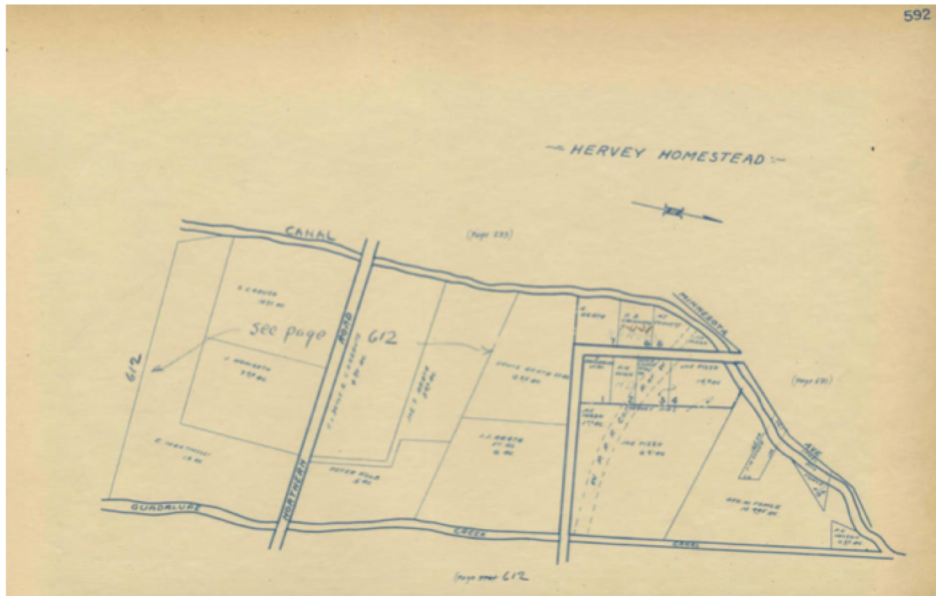


Shows Hervey Tract, Lewis Canal, Extension of River Guadalupe (Farming Activities?) and movement (around 1922) of Minnesota, near Willow

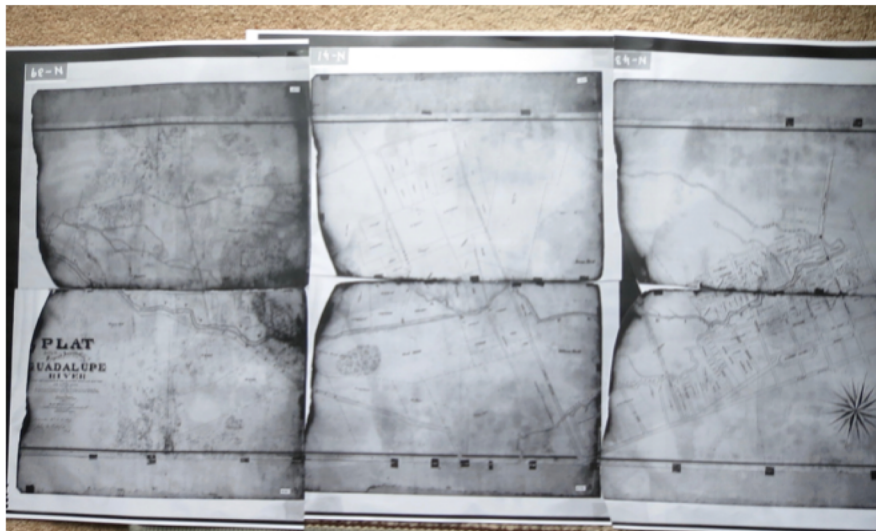


Shows Guadalupe River now extending to Pine and Bird (Northern Road)

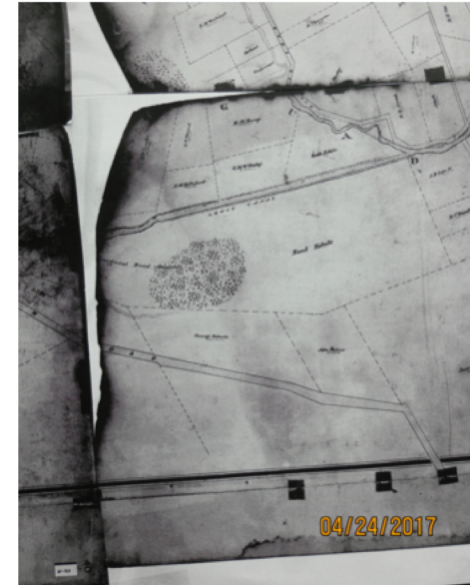
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Hervey Homestead 1924, when Grandpa bought the property
 Note by '24, what was the River Guadalupe is now a Canal and extended south of
 Birda and Willow Glen Way: Orchards, Farmer's Canals



The Burnt Map of Herman '79: The Lewis Canal



Overlay showing the edge, the burn, is RIGHT at the Intersection of Bird and Willow Glen Way! Ugh!

The “Burnt map” by Herrmann in 1879 is, in my opinion, the most detailed early depiction of the Lewis Canal, when it was dug wide, deep and with levees. The Folks in San Jose wanted to do something to the Guadalupe to reduce the rainy-season flooding; and so a committee was formed in 1870 to consider modifications and improvements. However, there was a financial downturn in the US about 1872 and it was a long recession period. From articles in the Daily Mercury, from County archives, and from minutes of the Common Council (City of San Jose) and County Superintendents (Santa Clara County), my best guess is that improvements were finally implemented in the timeframe of 1874 to 1876. The Herrmann Burnt Map focuses on the area-of-interest of this presentation, and if we only had the whole of the survey!

The whole map is shown in the prior foil, and one can see how it was folded and how the fire (Santa Clara County Courthouse Records Room) of 1934/36 ate at the folded-edges and particularly in the corners of the Herrmann Map. If one studies the ‘panels’ of this folded map, one can see that the original ‘River Guadalupe’ lies right along one of the folds, and the information is lost! The next foil shows an overlay (Adobe Photo Shop), and the origin of the River Guadalupe, poking its head up at the burnt-corner of the Herrmann map, the intersection of Bird Avenue and Willow Glen Way, is right smack in the burnt corner. Ugh!

There is a Herrmann logbook of this survey. It has all the bearings and distances necessary to reproduce this map. I would like to do this one day. The only question is how did Hermann include the detail, such as marshland, and other key features included in the map?? pppizzo

